GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2166
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2001
CABLE ROUTE IN SINGAPORE UNDER SEA
DILIP KUMAR MANSUKHLAL GANDHI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Singapore Telecom have signed for a joint venture to build cable route from India to Singapore under sea;

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be commissioned?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) to (c): As per the proposal given by M/s Bharti Aquanet Ltd. to Foreign Investment Promotion Board and further information received from M/s Bharti Enterprises, M/s Bharti Aquanet Ltd. and M/s Singtel Ltd., a Singapore Telecom group company, will build and operate under sea fibre optic cable network. M/s Singtel i2I Private Limited will have 49% foreign equity in the company. It will be a self-healing submarine cable network. This cable network will have a total bandwidth of 8.4 Terabits per second and will carry more than 1 billion conversations simultaneously. The cable is expected to start carrying commercial traffic by the end of 2001.